UM, THIS IS A LOT OF BOOKS.
YEAH.
DID YOU READ ALL OF THESE?
I COULDN'T HANDLE ALL OF THIS.
R-REAL-LY?
ぎくっ
AWKWARD
ぎくっ
AWKWARD
ぎくっ
AWKWARD
ぎくっ
AWKWARD
OH, I'M NOT SAYING I COULDN'T READ THEM!
YEAH.
UM...
YOU WANT ME TO TAKE ALL THESE BOOKS TO YOUR ROOM, RIGHT?
OH.
NO.
はっ
GRAB
はっ
GRAB
TWO-THIRDS OF THEM GO IN THE CLOSET.

THUNK
!
JUMP
WHOA!
I'M SORRY!
OH!
I-I'M SORRY, TOO!
TH-THAT MUST'VE HURT!
I'M FINE. ARE YOU OKAY?

MY GRANDMOTHER USED TO TELL ME TO BUMP INTO A PERSON A SECOND TIME ANYTIME I RAN INTO SOMEONE.
SHE SAID IT WAS BAD LUCK OR SOMETHING.
I WONDER WHAT MADE HER THINK THAT.
REAL...
REALLY?
I'VE NEVER HEARD THAT ONE BEFORE.
IT'S INTERESTING.

WHAT?
IS THAT JUST ONE OF MY FAMILY'S SUPERSTITIONS?! HOW EMBARRASSING! FORGET I SAID ANYTHING!
NO, THERE MAY BE SOME REAL REASON BEHIND IT. UM... SHOULD WE BUMP INTO EACH OTHER AGAIN?
NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!

THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
I'LL JUST USE THE WALL!
HA HA HA HA
THEN I'LL DO IT, TOO.
SENPAI, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT!
WHAT? BUT...
WHAT IS THIS?

WHOA!
RUSTLE RUSTLE
THE BOOKS...
!
WHOA!
I'M SORRY! IT WASN'T ON PUR-POSE!
S-SORRY.

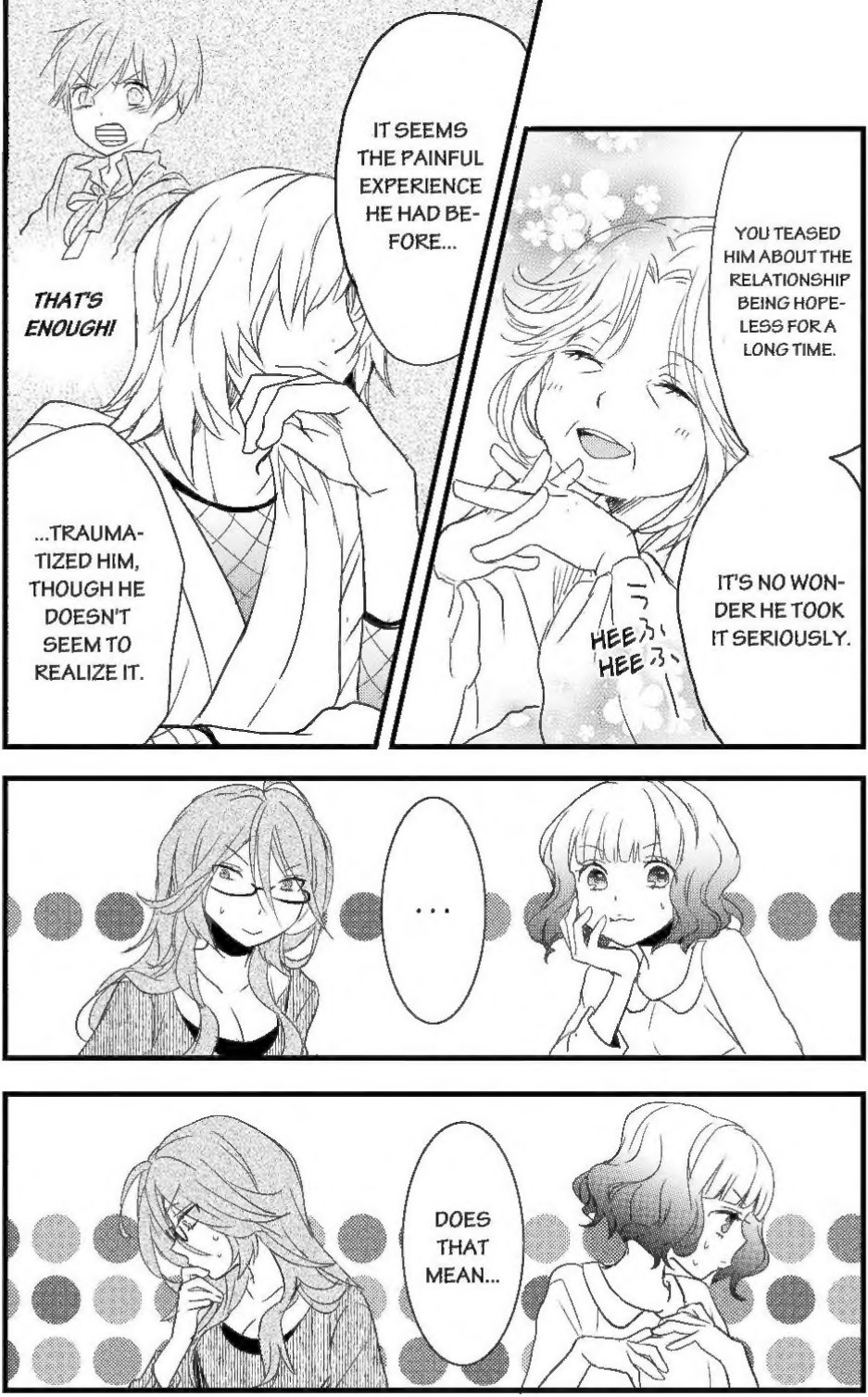
DECIDE WHETHER YOU'RE BEING AWKWARD OR ACTING OUT A ROMANTIC COMEDY...
GO BLUMP YOUR FACE ON THE FLOOR
AT THIS RATE, IF YOU WENT TO HER ROOM, YOU'D SLIP ON A BOOK, PUSH HER DOWN ON HER BED, AND END UP GRABBING HER BOOB..
I'LL TAKE THE BOOKS TO RIT-CHAN'S ROOM, SO YOU AND SHIRO CAN TAKE THE REST TO THE CLOSET.
CAN WE PUT THEM HERE?
THESE BOOK-SHELVES ARE AMAZING
すごい本棚
HEY, RIT-CHAN?
OH.
YEAH.
THOSE WERE HEAVY.
...
UM...
IF IT'S OKAY, I'D LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK AT THESE BOOKS.
SURE.
I'M HEADING BACK OUT, THEN.
THOSE GIRLS SURE READ A LOT OF BOOKS.

USA-KUN, WHAT'S WRONG?
OH...
SAYAKA, YOU'RE BACK?
YEAH
I JUST GOT IN.
YOU'RE JUST PRETENDING TO BE AWKWARD, BUT YOUR FLIRTING'S GOING AS PLANNED.
THINGS ARE GOING TERRIBLY!
I'M NOT DOING THAT! IT ONLY LASTED A SECOND! I ONLY REMEMBER THAT SHE SMELLED NICE, HER EYELASHES WERE LONG, AND HER HANDS WERE SOFT!
HE'S PROBABLY PONDERING THE HIS RECENT STROKE OF LEWD LUCK.
YOU REALLY GOT YOUR FILL, DIDN'T YOU?
BUT I STRUGGLE TO DISCUSS THE AUTHORS SHE REALLY LIKES,
WE MAY TALK A LOT...
OR THE FUTURE.
...
BUT AREN'T YOU HER CLOSEST FRIEND, USA-KUN?
OH, MY. RIT-CHAN HAS A MALE FRIEND?

ALL WE DO IS TALK A LOT.
MAYBE I'M NOT TOUCHING ON TOPICS THAT ARE REALLY IMPORTANT TO HER.
YOU CAN'T SERIOUSLY BE JEALOUS JUST BECAUSE SHE HAS A MALE FRIEND.
IT'S PATHETIC.
THIS IS WHY VIRGINS ARE... HUH?
SHUT UP!
...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
I'M IN NO POSITION
TO BE JEALOUS OR AGITATED.
IT'S UNSEEMLY...
IT'S NOT THAT YOU CAN'T BE JEALOUS.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL HIM THAT MUCH.
HE'LL GET CARRIED AWAY AND START BEING ANNOYING...
MMMPH
YOU STUPID... SAYAKA!
にひひひ
THAT'S RIGHT.
RIT-CHAN'S BEEN JEALOUS LATELY, TOO. IT'S NOT JUST YOU.
GLARE
WHAT?
YOU CAN'T FOOL ME.
SENPAI DOESN'T SEE ME THAT WAY.
I KNOW THAT!
PLEASE DON'T TEASE ME. I'M REALLY FEELING DOWN RIGHT NOW.

SHE SEEMS TO VALUE MY FRIENDSHIP,
BUT SHE JUST THOUGHT IT WAS "NICE" THAT I LIKE HER.
SIGH
OH.
RING-A-LING
SAKUMA
USA-SENPAI! IF YOU'VE GOT TIME DO YOU WANT TO GO HUNTING?
SHIINA
I'LL ROAST HIM WHILE I WAIT.
SAKUMA
YOU BITCH.
I CAN'T HANDLE ANYMORE TODAY.
I'M GOING TO PLAY DEMON HUNTER...
STAGGER
WHAT...
WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?
WE WERE TRYING TO CHEER HIM UP.
BUT IT'S THE TRUTH.
THAT INCOMPETENT MORON.
HE LACKS CONFIDENCE.
WELL, YEAH.


THAT'S ENOUGH!
IT SEEMS THE PAINFUL EXPERIENCE HE HAD BEFORE...
...TRAUMATIZED HIM, THOUGH HE DOESN'T SEEM TO REALIZE IT.
YOU TEASED HIM ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BEING HOPELESS FOR A LONG TIME.
IT'S NO WONDER HE TOOK IT SERIOUSLY.
HEEふ、HEEふ、
...
DOES THAT MEAN...

IT'S MAYUMI-SAN'S FAULT?!
IT'S SAYAKA'S FAULT?!
I DON'T KNOW.
WHO KNOWS?
SO MEAN!
SO MEAN!
THE OTHER DAY, I GUESS I SORT OF PUSHED YOU TOO HARD.
UM...
LET ME KNOW IF YOU WANT TO BORROW ANY BOOKS.
THANKS.

I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT IT.
IT'S TRUE THAT I WAS IMPOSING ON HIS KINDNESS AND TREATING HIM BADLY.
SOME-ONE ELSE POINTED IT OUT TO ME, TOO.
IT MUST BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO ACCOMMO-DATE ME.
I NEED TO CHANGE AT LEAST A LITTLE.
SHE'S TOTALLY WORRIED ABOUT IT...
I'M TRYING A FEW THINGS,
THOUGH I'LL NEVER BE LIKE SHIINA-SAN.

WHAT KIND OF "THINGS" DID SHE COME UP WITH?
OH, REALLY?
HOW HAS THAT TURNED OUT?
LOOKS LIKE HER IDEAS WERE USE-LESS.
THUNK
DOOM
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T HAVE ANY-ONE TO TALK TO.
SIGH
UM, I'M SORRY.
I WAS EXAGGER-ATING WHEN I SAID HE'D GET TIRED OF YOU.
I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO CHANGE.
USA-KUN WON'T HATE YOU OR GET MAD AT YOU IF YOU KEEP DOING WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING!
HE'S HEAD OVER HEELS FOR YOU.
HE WILL.

HE NEARLY HATED ME ONCE.
THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT I HAD TO CHANGE.
BUT I...
...
SHE'S NOT VERY GOOD AT TALKING.
THIS IS ONLY GOING TO GET WORSE.
USA-KUN CAN BE A PAIN IN THE ASS, TOO.

REALLY? GOOD LUCK, THEN.
BUT IT'S NOT MY PROB-LEM.
THANKS FOR HELP-ING ME CARRY MY BOOKS.
OH, REAL-LY?
バタン
SLAM
I'M GOING HOME.
WHAT?
OKAY.
THEY'RE GOING TO MISS THEIR OPPOR-TUNITY WHILE THEY WORRY ABOUT NOTHING.
THAT UNDERCLASS-MAN DOESN'T SEEM TO BE AS DIFFICULT.
MAYBE SHE AND USA-KUN WILL GET TOGETHER.
SERIOUSLY? THAT'S HILARIOUS.
WELL, WHATEVER.
...
IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO SAY OR ASK?
UM...

JUMP
IT'S TOTALLY NOT OKAY!
STOMP
STOMP
HOW DARE THEY PUSH ME AROUND.
?
?
THEY'RE ACTING LIKE A PAIR OF MORONS.
BOOM
LET ME BORROW THIS BOOK.
WHAT?
UM, OKAY
I CAN'T JUST BORROW ONE OF YOURS.
I'LL LEND YOU ONE THAT I REC-OMMEND.

SHE CAN'T SERIOUSLY LET A GIRL WHO SUDDENLY APPEARED JUST TAKE HIM AWAY FROM HER.
...WHILE I'M AT IT, I MIGHT TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOME UNIMPORTANT SHIT, TOO!
GIVE ME YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS!
I NEED IT TO PLAN WHEN I'LL GIVE YOU THE BOOK, AND FOR OTHER CORRESPONDENCE,
AND...
OKAY...
NO.
WHEN I ASKED FOR IT BEFORE, SHE WOULDN'T GIVE IT TO ME.
ALSO, COULD I GET MASTER WATANABE SAYAKA'S E-MAIL ADDRESS, TOO?

THIS IS HAYASHI. I DON'T HAVE ANY PLANS TODAY, SO I'M GOING YO THE HOUSE-BOY CAFE. YOU'RE WELCOME TO JOIN ME IF YOU'RE FREE. I'VE GOT MY BOOKS WITH ME.
SHE REALLY E-MAILED ME...
RING-A-LING
HOORAY! IT'S STRAWBERRIES FOR DESSERT TODAY
DO YOU WANT SOME?
!
NOT THAT IT MATTERS, BUT USA-KUN SHOULD COME, TOO, IF HE'S FREE. (IT WOULD MAKE KUROKAWA-SAN HAPPY.) WHY DON'T YOU TRY INVITING HIM OUT ONCE IN A WHILE?
HEY, TAKA-HASHI-KUN.
RIT-CHAN'S GOING ON A DATE TODAY, SO THERE'S NO STUDY SESSION.
"SURE, I CAN GO"...
MAEMURA-SAN, IS IT OKAY IF WE DON'T HOLD A STUDY SESSION TODAY?
SURE.

REAL-LY?
I-IT'S NOT A DATE!
I WAS JUST KIDDING. SORRY.
YOU SEEMED HAPPY, SO I THOUGHT SOME-ONE ASKED YOU OUT ON A DATE.
MAE-MURA...
...
I'M NOT INVITING HIM ON A DATE...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO TO THE HOUSEBOY CAFE TOGETHER?
...
THIS KIND OF SEEMS LIKE...
THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY TO...
UH, UM...
DING DONG
I'LL SEND IT AFTER SCHOOL...
...

THAT SHOULD DO IT...
TODAY HAYASHI-SAN'S LENDING ME A BOOK, SO I'M GOING TO THE HOUSE-BOY CAFE.
USA-KUN, IF YOU'RE FREE, WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US? KUROKAWA-SAN'S WAITING TO SEE YOU.
OKAY.
SEND...
OH!
THE BATTERY IS DEAD...
YOU'VE BEEN REALLY OUT OF IT LATELY.
ARE YOU OKAY?
SHE SAID SHE'D HAVE STUDY SESSIONS FOR A WHILE.
SHE PROBABLY DIDN'T E-MAIL ME...

I FEEL AS THOUGH...
...WE'RE DRIFTING FARTHER APART.
USA, TAGAMI.
DO YOU WANT TO GO KARAOKE WITH EVERY-ONE TODAY?
MAYBE HE DIDN'T NOTICE...
...
YOU HAVE NO NEW MESSAGES
I GUESS I'LL GO TO THE CAFE
AND WAIT TO HEAR FROM HIM.
HUH?

IT'S KAWAI-SENPAI.
ARE YOU ON YOUR WAY HOME?
CAN I JOIN YOU?
...
UM...
YOU CAN COME PART OF THE WAY.
PART OF THE WAY?
I'M GOING TO THE HOUSE-BOY CAFE.
THAT'S AN INTERESTING PLACE, ISN'T IT?
ARE YOU GOING ALONE?
PROB-ABLY.
USA-KUN'S COMING LATER.
WHAT?

OH, BUT MAYBE I GOT CONFUSED.
CALL HIM! WHY DON'T YOU TRY CALLING HIM?
USA-SENPAI SAID HE WAS GOING TO KARAOKE WITH HIS CLASSMATES
WHEN I RAN INTO HIM IN THE ENTRYWAY.
HE'S NOT ANSWERING.
...
MAYBE HE DIDN'T NOTICE.
IT MAY BE TOO LOUD TO HEAR.
カラオケ
HE IS AT KARAOKE
...
UM...
IN THAT CASE...
WELCOME.

...
WHY...
...DID YOU INVITE YOUR RIVAL?